

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USNATO 07198 01 OF 02 270913Z
ACTION EUR-12

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INFO CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA
USNMR SHAPE BE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USNATO 07198

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NPG, MNUC, NATO
SUBJECT: NPG: STATEMENT BY US REP ON SHORT-TERM MEASURES
REPORT AT 24 JUL STAFF GROUP MEETING

REF: STATE 185946 (DTG: 221705Z JUL 78)

1. THERE FOLLOWS BELOW THE TEXT OF THE STATEMENT GIVEN
BY THE US REP (LENTZ) AT THE 24 JUL 78 NPG STAFF GROUP
MEETING PURSUANT TO GUIDANCE IN REFTEL.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

.
US VIEWS ON THE DRAFT PERMREP REPORT ON THE NMAS' SHORT-
TERM MEASURES

(STATEMENT IN THE STAFF GROUP, 24 JULY 1978)

. WHILE APPRECIATING THE CONSIDERABLE EFFORT THE IS HAS
ALREADY PUT FORTH IN PULLING THE PRESENT DRAFT TOGETHER,
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PAGE 02 USNATO 07198 01 OF 02 270913Z

WASHINGTON BELIEVES THAT THE DRAFT IS NOT ADEQUATELY
STRUCTURED TO SUPPORT PRODUCTIVE PERMREP AND MINISTERIAL
ADDRESSAL OF THE MEASURES.

. IN PARTICULAR, WASHINGTON BELIEVES THE PRESENT DRAFT
DOES NOT PERMIT A REALLY CLEAR FOCUS ON THE MEASURES
THEMSELVES IN A WAY THAT WOULD SERVE TO PROMOTE FURTHER

PRACTICAL ACTION TOWARD, AS THE BARRI MINUTE STATED, "AMELIORATING THOSE PROBLEMS" THAT WE ASKED THE NMAS TO IDENTIFY.

. IN THIS REGARD, THEY NOTE THAT PARAGRAPH 5 OF THE PERMREP FOLLOW-UP ACTION REPORT (WHICH WAS AGREED BY NATIONS) CLEARLY DEFINES THAT THE AIM OF THIS REPORT "...SHOULD BE TO PROVIDE FOR DISCUSSION BY NPG MINISTERS A REPORT WHICH INDICATES, IN THE LIGHT OF THE ABOVE, NATIONAL POSITIONS WITH REGARD TO THE PROPOSED SHORT-TERM MEASURES."

. IN VIEW OF THESE CONSIDERATIONS, WASHINGTON PROPOSES THAT A RESTRUCTURED DRAFT SHOULD:

. -- SIMPLY RESTATE EACH MEASURE AND THE PURPOSE IT IS SUPPOSED TO SERVE;

. -- COMPILE NATIONAL VIEWS EXPRESSED TO DATE ON EACH OF THE MEASURES; AND

. -- INCLUDE ANY VIEWS EXPRESSED TO DATE IN STAFF GROUP OR BY PERMREPS ON ECONOMIC, FINANCIAL, ARMS CONTROL AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS OF EACH MEASURE IN TURN, INCLUDING WHETHER FURTHER ACTION MUST BE DEFERRED PENDING FURTHER HLG EXAMINATION OF LONG-TERM MODERNIZATION.
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PAGE 03 USNATO 07198 01 OF 02 270913Z

. AS I NOTED EARLIER, WASHINGTON BELIEVES THIS APPROACH WOULD SERVE TO PROMOTE FURTHER PRACTICAL ACTION ON THE MEASURES. THEY NOTE, IN THIS REGARD, THAT THIS APPROACH WOULD ALSO GREATLY ASSIST IN THEIR OWN FURTHER ADDRESSAL OF THE MEASURES, PARTICULARLY SINCE SOME WASHINGTON ACTION IS INVOLVED ON VIRTUALLY EVERY MEASURE.

. ASIDE FROM THE COMMENTS ON THE REPORT'S STRUCTURE, WASHINGTON ALSO OFFERED THESE OBSERVATIONS:

. THEY NOTE THAT IT WOULD SEEM INAPPROPRIATE FOR THE NPG TO VENTURE TOO FAR INTO ARMS CONTROL MATTERS IN THIS REPORT, GIVEN THE PRACTICAL SHORT-TERM FOCUS, PER BARI GUIDANCE, ON "IMPROVEMENTS IN CURRENTLY AVAILABLE FORCES AND WEAPONS SYSTEMS." HOWEVER, IF A REFERENCE TO ARMS CONTROL IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY ON A PARTICULAR MEASURE, THEY WOULD SEE IT BEING CONFINED TO A SIMPLE STATEMENT THAT, FOR EXAMPLE, A GIVEN MEASURE IS NOT INCONSISTENT WITH EXISTING ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENT.

. -- REGARDING THE STOCKPILE MEASURE, WASHINGTON

OBSERVES THAT IT HAS A MANDATE TO PROVIDE AN APPROPRIATE COMMENT AND, THEREFORE, THAT SECTION SHOULD BE LEFT BLANK PENDING US PROVISION OF A DRAFT TEXT, WHICH THEY NOTE SHOULD BE AVAILABLE NO LATER THAN THE END OF AUGUST.

. -- REGARDING ADMS, THEY NOTE THAT THE WASHINGTON REVIEW OF SACEUR'S ADM STUDY HAS NOT BEEN COMPLETED, AND THAT THEY ARE STILL CONSIDERING WAYS TO ADDRESS THE LONG-TERM DETERRENT IMPLICATIONS STUDY CALLED FOR ON DEFENSIVE SYSTEMS. THEREFORE, THEY BELIEVE THAT NO

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PAGE 01 USNATO 07198 02 OF 02 270914Z

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 USNATO 07198

REFERENCE SHOULD BE MADE TO ADMS IN THIS REPORT SAVE FOR A BRIEF REFERENCE TO ON-GOING STUDIES, PER PARA 21 OF THE FREDERIKSHAVN AGREED MINUTE AND PARA 7 OF THE FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS REPORT.

. I BELIEVE OUR CHAIRMAN HAS MENTIONED AN IS-PREPARED "BOOK" LISTING THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF NATIONAL POSITIONS THAT COULD BE DRAWN ON IF IT WERE DECIDED TO FOCUS A DRAFT ON NATIONAL VIEWS ON INDIVIDUAL MEASURES. TO ASSIST FURTHER IN PULLING THESE VIEWS TOGETHER, WASHINGTON HAS AUTHORIZED CIRCULATION OF THE US VIEWS ON EACH MEASURE, AND THEY SHOULD BE COMING TO YOU VIA THE CENTRAL REGISTRY THIS AFTERNOON. END TEXT. BENNETT

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